

devastating disease, as well as supporting research to improve treatments, find cures and receive early diagnosis. The MPS families are encouraged to reflect and support each other and to reach out to those families who have lost loved ones to MPS. By wearing their purple ribbons and sharing these ribbons within their community, they are increasing public awareness about this disease. This date is also the start of the National MPS Run/Walk season along with other local community activities to raise awareness along with money for research and for family assistance programs. I commend the National MPS Society and their many volunteers for an unwavering commitment to bring about awareness of this disease and to continue to advocate for federal legislation to streamline the regulatory processes and to speed effective treatments and cures for their loved ones. More must be done to find cures and effective treatments, but let us reflect on the importance of this day. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in commemorating National MPS Awareness Day.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POINT PLEASANT FIRE CO. #1

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on the 90th anniversary of the Point Pleasant Fire Co. #1, we recognize the spirit and unflinching courage of dedicated volunteers who run to the rescue—ready to protect their neighbors and the community—since 1924. The Point Pleasant Fire Co. now has grown into a much larger fire organization with many more well-trained volunteers who comprise the complement of firefighters and dive and technical rescue teams. Also, on his day, we may reflect on the generations of firefighters and company officers who answered the call. They are an integral part of the great history of the Point Pleasant Fire Co. and their service will be remembered as an example of the true spirit of first responders everywhere. Today's firefighters continue to set an example of public service and volunteerism for others to follow and the community is grateful to those who contribute to this effort.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOUND EARS CLUB

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hound Ears Club, a community-minded club nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains near the towns of Blowing Rock, Boone and Banner Elk; and the Robbins Family, who had the vision to found the club. Chartered in 1964, the Club has provided fifty years of community service and economic benefits to

the people of Watauga County, North Carolina.

Over the years, Hound Ears Club members have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to benefit many Watauga County charities. Members and residents have served, and continue to serve, on the boards and among the ranks of these charities.

Over the past fifty years, the Hound Ears Club has made valuable contributions to the economic needs of the citizens of Watauga County through capital investment projects, local business patronage, college scholarships, real estate development and perhaps most importantly, by providing jobs in the community. Hound Ears members and the Robbins Family have contributed tremendously to the success of Watauga County's tourism industry.

I commend the Hound Ears Club for its fifty years of serving Watauga County, and wish the members all the best as they embark on fifty more.

UNION INSTITUTE & UNIVERSITY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the year 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of Union Institute & University, a private, non-profit, accredited university, designed exclusively for adults seeking academic programs that transform lives and communities.

Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, with centers in California, Florida, and Vermont, Union's vision is to engage, enlighten, and empower motivated adults in their pursuit of a lifetime of learning and service. This forward-facing institution now serves 2,000 students around the nation and offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees and certificates. Union Institute & University pioneered many of the concepts now common in higher education, including distance and online education, individualized self-paced programs, and an abiding commitment to adults seeking transformative education.

Today, the university's 15,500 alumni—including the Most Honorable Prime Minister of Jamaica, Portia Simpson Miller, and our esteemed colleague, the Honorable Congressman from Illinois, Dr. Danny Davis—are transforming lives and communities, and making a difference wherever they live and work.

HONORING DON RUST

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Don Rust who on May 1, 2014, retired as Fire Chief for the city of Houston, Missouri.

Don began his career in the fire department in January of 1976 and has served as the

Chief of the Houston department for the past thirty one years. During his tenure, Don has an exceptional list of accomplishments. Don oversaw the construction of a new fire station, created the Junior Fire Fighter Program to attract younger recruits, improved the department's insurance rating, and significantly improved fire fighter pay.

Don also sat on numerous committees and served his community in various ways. He was the County Civil Defense Director, served on the Houston Planning and Zoning Commission, and supervised the Texas County Rescue. In 2007, Don received the U.S. Presidential Service Award that recognizes volunteerism in the fire service.

Don has been married to his wife Janet since 1975 and is the father of two sons, Darren and David. Both followed in their father's footsteps and have served as firefighters. It is my privilege to recognize Don's achievements before the House of Representatives and I wish him a long and fulfilling retirement.

AMERICA LOSES WAR HERO WITH PASSING OF EARL BROWN FLATT

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to commemorate the passing of a great man in our community who served his country as a United States Marine and later as a community leader in South Louisiana.

Earl Brown Flatt joined the Marine Corps in 1941 at the ripe old age of 17. Earl knew from Day One he wanted to serve his country and make a lasting impact for future generations. He accomplished that goal. Participating in the Iwo Jima campaign during World War II, Earl was a proud member of the Marine Corps exemplifying its core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

After his distinguished career in the Marine Corps, Earl took a leading role in the organization of State Farm Agencies in the State of Louisiana. He was a State Farm Insurance Manager for 44 years and retired in 1994. Earl made sure to give back to his community and worked tirelessly to improve it. He helped establish the Crime Stoppers of Lafayette and was very active in the Republican Party of Louisiana. In addition, he was a charter member of the Oakbourne Country Club. But Earl never wandered very far from the armed services as he served as the President of the Honor Air and arranged 22 flights to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorials. He attended countless funerals throughout Acadiana to honor the lives of fallen soldiers. His patriotism was only matched by his devotion to his family.

Earl is survived by his wife of 62 years, Darlene Storey Flatt of Broussard; two sons, Pat Flatt of Broussard and Jon Flatt of Austin, Texas; two brothers, Wayne Flatt of Dallas, Texas, and Estle Flatt of Nashville, Tennessee; five grandchildren, Rachel, Wesley, Alys, Leigh Anne, and Olivia; and one great grandson, Cooper.